

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02027 111018Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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R 110928Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8799
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USCINCEUR VAININGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 2027

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, EFIN, PINS, MOPS, AG, US
SUBJECT: DEMARCHES TO AND DISCUSSIONS WITH GOA FOREIGN MINISTRY

REF: A) STATE 169698, B) STATE 171829, C) ALGIERS 1759,
D) STATE 148408/1, E) ALGIERS 1759, F) ALGIERS 0547

1. AS INSTRUCTED IN REFTEL A, ON JULY 9 I PRESENTED OUR
FORMAL PROTEST TO GOA FONMINISTRY SEC GEN SBIH OVER THE
HARRASSING MANEUVERS BY AN ALGERIAN MIG-21 AGAINST AN AMERICAN
MILITARY PLANE IN INTERNATIONAL AIRSPACE.

2. SBIH ACCEPTED THE AIDE MEMOIRE (REFTEL B) DESCRIBING AND
PROTESTING THE INCIDENT WITH THE EXPRESS UNDERSTANDING THAT
HE COULD ONLY PASS IT ON TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND
THAT THE FACT OF HIS ACCEPTANCE SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED IN
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PAGE 02 ALGIER 02027 111018Z

ANY WAY AS A GOA RESPONSE.

3. ON THIS SAME OCCASION, SBIH TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO
REPLY TO MY RECENT BRIEFING OF THE ALGERIANS (REFTEL C)
ON OUR VIEWS OF THE PARIS MEETING ON ZAIRE (REFTEL D).
HE SAID THAT THE GOA WAS MOST FAVORABLY STRUCK BY THE
FACT THAT USG HAS LIMITED ITS SUPPORT OF AFRICAN FORCES

TO THE IMMEDIATE SHABA CRISIS AND THAT WE HAVE NO THOUGHT OF SUPPORTING AN AFRICAN MUTUAL DEFENSE FORCE (PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFTEL D).

4. WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBLE GOA INITIATIVES TO POSITIVELY AFFECT THE ZAIRE-ANGOLA BORDER SITUATION (PARAGRAPH 5 OF REFTEL D), SBIH SAID THAT THE GOA WAS READY TO SUPPORT ANYTHING TO WHICH THE TWO GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED AGREE.

5. IN CLOSING, SBIH MENTIONED THAT THE JUNE 24 ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK TIMES ON THE DELAY OF SALES TO LIBYA HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOA BY ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE FELT THAT HE SHOULD INFORMALLY PASS ON TO ME THE GOA CONCERN OVER THE HINT ATTRIBUTED TO A "STATE DEPT OFFICIAL" THAT ALGERIA COULD QUALIFY FOR TREATMENT SIMILAR TO THAT ACCORDED TO LIBYA BECAUSE "MANY PEOPLE IN CONGRESS FEEL IT HAS CLOSE TIES TO POLITICAL LEFT-WING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS". SBIH REITERATED THE GOA POLICY ON HIJACKING (REFTELS E AND F), CITING IT AS EVIDENCE OF GOA ACTION TO DISCOURAGE TERRORISM. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GOA CONSIDERED IT REGRETTABLE THAT SOME COUNTRIES EQUATE ITS SUPPORT FOR LEGITIMATE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS SUCH AS THE POLISARIO TO SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM.HAYNES

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